

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOME 01914 181420Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 CPR-01 /064 W

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R 181032Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2515

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 1914

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS:PPFOR TO KN

SUBJ: REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS RE POSSIBLE PROTEST NORTH KOREAN
REPRESENTATIVE'S REMARKS

1. IN THE TOGO-PRESSE EDITION OF JULY 11, 1977 AN ACCOUNT
OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF
THE EMBASSY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KOREA
APPEARED. THE REPORT CHARACTERIZED US POLICY IN KOREA
AS "A POLICY OF CRIMINAL WAR AND DIVISIVE MANEUVERS."
AS HAS BEEN THE EMBASSY'S PRACTICE IN THE PAST, WE PROPOSE
TO SEND A PROTEST NOTE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
CALLING THE MINISTRY'S ATTENTION TO THE REPORTED REMARKS.
TEXT OF EMBASSY'S PROPOSED NOTE FOLLOWS IN PARA 3. HOWEVER,
EMBASSY BELIEVES IT MIGHT BE WORTHWHILE TO SEEK THE DEPART-
MENT'S GUIDANCE ON THE MAKING OF A PROTEST AT THIS
JUNCTURE, IN THE WAKE OF THE HELICOPTER INCIDENT IN THE
KOREAN DMZ. THE AMBASSADOR MENTIONED THE PRESS CONFERENCE
ISSUE TO FOREIGN MINISTER KODJO AT THE JULY 14 FRENCH
NATIONAL DAY AND SAID A NOTE WOULD PROBABLY BE COMING
AND THAT HE MIGHT DELIVER IT PERSONALLY. THE FOREIGN
MINISTER RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO THE IDEA OF A PERSONAL
DEMARCHE.

2. THERE IS MUCH TO BE SAID FOR NOT CALLING EXCESSIVE
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ATTENTION TO THE NORTH KOREAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE. THE
REPORTERS WHO COVERED THE CONFERENCE PRESUMABLY REPORTED
HIS REMARKS IN NORMAL WAY. THE SAME DAY THE ARTICLE
ON NORTH KOREAN PRESS CONFERENCE WAS COVERED THE VISIT
OF REVEREND SULLIVAN OF OICI TO PYA WAS BANNERED WITH A
LONG AND FAVORABLE STORY, SO ON BALANCE THE KOREAN STORY
WAS OF RELATIVELY LITTLE IMPORTANCE IN THE PRESS THAT DAY.

THEREFORE, IF AMBASSADOR POINTS OUT THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH SUCH NORTH KOREAN ACTIVITY TO FOREIGN MINISTER IN NORMAL FREINDLY DISCOURSE, IT CONCEIVABLY MIGHT HAVE MORE EFFECT THAN THE SENDING OF NOTE. REQUEST COMMENTS.

3. TEXT OF PROPOSED NOTE FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TOGO AND HAS THE HONOR TO CALL THE MINISTRY'S ATTENTION TO THE PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE EMBASSY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KOREA AS REPORTED IN THE TOGO-PRESSE OF JULY 11, 1977.

QUOTE: THE EMBASSY REGRETS THE NECESSITY TO TAKE NOTE OF THIS BREACH OF DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE. HOWEVER, THE CHARACTERIZATION BY THE NORTH KOREAN REPRESENTATIVE OF UNITED STATES POLICY IN KOREA AS " A POLICY OF CRIMINAL WAR AND DIVISIVE MANEUVERS" IS OFFENSIVE. THE EMBASSY FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE NORTH KOREAN REPRESENTATIVE IS PERMITTED TO MAKE IMPROPER AND INSULTING REMARKS ON TOGOLESE SOIL ABOUT ANOTHER NATION WITH WHOM THE TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT MAINTAINS FRIENDLY AND CORRECT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

QUOTE: IN THIS CONNECTION, THE EMBASSY CALLS ATTENTION TO ITS AIDE-MEMOIRE OF JULY 21, 1976, AND PREVIOUS PROTESTS AGAINST SUCH ACTIVITIES BY NORTH KOREAN REPRESENTATIVES
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ACCREDITED TO TOGO. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE) END QUOTE.
PALMER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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